



File Code: 1950

Date: January 10, 2013

Dear Interested Citizen,

The Forest Service, Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, has prepared an environmental assessment (EA) for the Bybee Vegetation Management Project. The Bybee project planning area is approximately 16,215 acres and located in the Upper Rogue River Watershed between Crater Lake National Park on the east, Hwy 230 on the west, Hwy 62 on the south, and Forest Road 6535-900 on the north. The legal description of the area is sec. 13, 24, 25, 26, 35, and 36, Township 30 South, Range 3 East; sec. 7-30 and 33-36, Township 30 South, Range 4 East; sec. 7 and 18, Township 30 South, Range 5 East; and sec. 1 and 2, Township 31 South, Range 4 East, of the Willamette Meridian, Jackson County, Oregon.

Alternative 2 (modified proposed action) would authorize 3,622 acres of commercial silvicultural timber harvest treatments, producing 45 million board feet (MMBF); and construction of 12.9 miles of temporary roads (8.8 miles of which would be on existing non-system road template). Alternative 3 would authorize 2,990 acres of commercial silvicultural timber harvest treatments, producing 34 MMBF; and construction of 9.4 miles of temporary roads (7.8 miles of which would be on existing non-system road template). Alternative 4 would authorize 2,915 acres of commercial silvicultural timber harvest treatments, producing 10 MMBF; and construction of 2.3 miles of temporary roads on existing non-system road template. Under all action alternatives there would be 467 acres of natural fuels reduction treatments, 5.4 miles of roads decommissioning, snag creation, soil restoration, planting, animal damage control activities, stand improvement, and wildlife habitat enhancement.

Please see the EA and its supporting appendices for additional details, which are available for review at the Medford Interagency Office, 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, OR 97504, and online at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/rogue-siskiyou/landmanagement/projects>. Additional information regarding this action can be obtained from: Sasha Fertig (Environmental Coordinator), telephone: (541) 618-2127, e-mail: sashafertig@fs.fed.us; or David Krantz (Forest Planner), telephone: (541) 618-2126, e-mail: dkrantz@fs.fed.us.

Comment timeframe: Written, facsimile, hand-delivered, oral, and electronic comments concerning this action will be accepted for 30 calendar days following publication of this notice. The publication date in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for this analysis. Those wishing to comment should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source. It is the responsibility of persons providing comments to submit them by the close of the comment period.



Comments and Appeal: Comments must meet the information requirements of 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 215.6. Only those who provide timely and substantive comments will be eligible to appeal the decision pursuant to 36 CFR part 215 regulations.

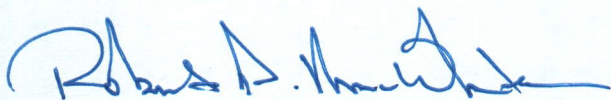
How to comment: Comment may be submitted in several formats, following the instructions provided below.

- Written comments must be submitted to: Robert G. MacWhorter, Forest Supervisor, c/o Sasha Fertig, 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, OR 97504. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered comments are: 8:00AM – 4:30PM, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.
- Comments submitted via facsimile may be sent to: (541) 618-2149.
- Oral comments must be provided at the responsible official's office during normal business hours via telephone to Sasha Fertig, telephone: (541) 618-2127, or in person.
- Electronic comments must be submitted in a format such as an email message, using plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), Word (.doc or .docx), or portable document format (.pdf) to: comments-pacificnorthwest-rogueriver-highcascades@fs.fed.us. Please include "Bybee" in your subject line. In cases where no identifiable name is attached to a comment, a verification of identity will be required for appeal eligibility. If using an electronic message, a scanned signature is one way to provide verification.

Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will become part of the public record for this proposed action. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered; however, anonymous comments will not provide the Agency with the ability to provide the respondent with subsequent environmental documents. Additionally, pursuant to 7 CFR 1.27(d), any person may request the agency to withhold a submission from the public record by showing how the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) permits such confidentiality. Persons requesting such confidentiality should be aware that, under the FOIA, confidentiality may be granted in only very limited circumstances, such as to protect trade secrets. The Forest Service will inform the requester of the agency's decision regarding the request for confidentiality. Where the request is denied, the agency will return the submission and notify the requester that the comments may be resubmitted with or without names and addresses.

For more information, please contact Sasha Fertig (Environmental Coordinator) at the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest Supervisor's Office (Medford Interagency Office), 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, OR 97504, (541) 618-2127, sashafertig@fs.fed.us, or David Krantz (Forest Planner), telephone: (541) 618-2126, e-mail: dkrantz@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,



ROBERT G. MACWHORTER
Forest Supervisor